



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Farm Service Agency  
Illinois State Office  
3500 Wabash Avenue  
Springfield, Illinois 62711-8287

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August 2, 2012  
Reply to: FLP: rz

Honorable Jerry Costello  
U. S. Representative, District 12  
144 Lincoln Place Court, Suite 4  
Belleville, Illinois 62221

Dear Congressman Costello:

Effective August 1, 2012, Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture, declared counties in Illinois natural disaster areas due to losses caused by drought occurring from July 24, 2012 and continuing. Counties affected by this declaration are as follows:

**Illinois Primary Counties (66)**

Adams	Bond	Boone	Brown	Calhoun	Carroll
Cass	Champaign	Christian	Clark	Clay	Clinton
Coles	Cumberland	De Witt	Douglas	Edgar	Effingham
Fayette	Ford	Fulton	Greene	Hancock	Henderson
Iroquois	Jasper	Jefferson	Jersey	Jo Daviess	La Salle
Lee	Livingston	Logan	McDonough	McLean	Macon
Macoupin	Madison	Marion	Marshall	Mason	Menard
Monroe	Montgomery	Morgan	Moultrie	Ogle	Peoria
Perry	Piatt	Randolph	Rock Island	St. Clair	Sangamon
Schuyler	Scott	Shelby	Stephenson	Tazewell	Vermilion
Warren	Washington	Wayne	Whiteside	Winnebago	Woodford

**Illinois Contiguous Counties (19)**

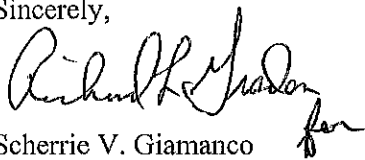
Bureau	Crawford	De Kalb	Edwards	Franklin	Grundy
Hamilton	Henry	Jackson	Kankakee	Kendall	Knox
McHenry	Mercer	Pike	Putnam	Richland	Stark
White					

This designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for assistance from FSA, provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loan assistance. FSA will consider each application on its own merit, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability.

Emergency loan applications will be received through **April 1, 2013**. Applications pending on the above date may be processed and completed. The disaster declaration number is **S3311**.

For the purpose of determining loan security values for loan applications, the beginning date of the incident period is **July 24, 2012.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard H. Giamanco", followed by a small "for" written below it.

Scherrie V. Giamanco  
State Executive Director  
Illinois State FSA Office